

AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN

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to do so, or to have delegated authority to do it. We have given almost unlimited means to enable them to do it. Money has been poured out without stint. The finest, best equipped, and most numerous army that the sun has shone upon since the days of Xerxes is now in the field, which, if put into action, would soon bring things to a crisis, and settle the troubles at once; and yet, *forsaking*, we are doomed to hear the everlasting "ding dong" of Congressional eloquence, upon abstract questions and possible contingencies. The house is on fire, and the firemen are arguing with folded arms whether John or Jim set it, and whether snow-water, of warm water, or hard water or soft water, or rose water, or milk and water would put it out quickest.

Our Flag Planted in Tennessee.

By the despatches, it will be seen that another brilliant and important success has been gained by our forces in the West. In the language of the despatch of Gen. Halleck, "The flag of the Union is re-established on the soil of Tennessee. It will never be removed."

From the partial accounts thus far received, we learn that a gunboat expedition left Cairo last week, under the command of Com. Foote, supported by a land force of 8,000 men commanded by Gen. Grant, for the purpose of making a combined attack on Fort Henry, situated on the Tennessee river, about 45 miles from its mouth, near the line of Kentucky and Tennessee. Fort Henry is the only fortification on the river of any importance. It stands on a high bluff overlooking the river. Its walls were very high, but just below a band in the river, and enables its navigation for a distance of two miles down stream. The fort was supposed to be well defended—the rebel papers say after the expedition was known to be on its way, expressing entire confidence in the ability of Gen. Tilgham to defend it with the forces at his disposal.

On Thursday the 6th inst., about noon, the gunboats having reached their position, the attack commenced, and although the defence was maintained with great determination and spirit, so terribly effective was the fire of our guns, that the rebel flag was struck in one hour and a quarter, and Com. Foote took possession of the Fort.—Gen. Tilgham and his staff and sixteen men composing the garrison, were taken prisoner. Several hundred rebels fled to the woods on the fort, before the surrender, made a rapid stampede in the direction of Columbus, leaving behind them their camp equipage, stores of every kind, ammunition and guns. The casualties on the side of the enemy are not stated. Our loss was comparatively large in killed and wounded, owing to the unfortunate error to the gunboat Essex—a shot from the Fort going through her boiler, and fatally sealing several of the crew, including the two pilots of the boat.

Gen. Lloyd Tilgham, the rebel commander, is a native of Maryland, and a graduate of West Point. For several years past, he has been engaged as an engineer on Western railroads, and resided in Kentucky. The *Portland Advertiser* says his wife is a native of that city, daughter of the late Jos. C. Boyd, Esq.

Latter reports inform us that the line of the Ohio and Memphis Railroad has been taken possession of by Gen. Grant, thus cutting the main direct communication between Memphis and the rebel capital at Vicksburg. Next day the Confederates apparently effected the result of an attack on Fort Donelson, which was to be made on Friday or Saturday last, by our forces moving up the Cumberland river, under Gen. Wallace, assisted by Gen. Grant's brigade on the Tennessee river.

THE CAVALRY REGIMENT. Adj. Gen. Hodson, in a letter to the *Boston Journal* in reply to some anonymous advertisements by a correspondent upon the character and discipline of the Maine Cavalry Regiment, says the quality of the horses, states the best breeding for cavalry service, the organization and efficiency of this fine body of soldiers.

He says:

"Without commenting upon the unanimous expression of those who have seen the numerous regiments of Cavalry in service upon the Potomac, (and those raised elsewhere for this emergency), and especially that of the Maine Cavalry, both men and horses, is not inferior to the very best in the service, I will adduce a few facts and figures, shown by the records of this department—

On the 7th of October the first purchase of nineteen horses was brought into camp.
On the 18th they numbered 357.
On the 20th they had been lost from all causes 29.
On the 3d of November they numbered 1107.
On the 23rd of November they numbered 1176, the maximum number.

If it be true that more than one half of these horses have been in camp three months, and all of them more than two. Their average cost delivered here, including all expenses, was about \$104 each. Although of fine animals, states the Adj. Gen., they were generally of small stature blanketing, their improvement in flesh, spirit and drill has excited the admiration of all who have been in a situation to observe them.

Two were fatally injured coming into camp. One ruptured from a fall upon the ice, being smooth-shod. Two spoiled from being kicked. A few others were hurt by falling together, and many others of long complaints. The nineteen unserviceable horses sold realized an average of about \$50 dollars each.

If it be true that the casualties ordinarily attending the movements of large bodies of undisciplined horses, with change of keepers and grooms, or feed, war, shelter, location and care, and above all, (being strangers) injury to each other by kicking and rubbing together, and the like, is regarded as surprising that so few have been lost or injured.

The admission that the men are above the average of regiments coupled as it is with the remark that the majority of the officers are incompetent, from education and temper, to fill their places," evinces a mischievous spirit deserving rebuke. The unusual care and attention of the Adj. Gen. to the welfare of the men, as regards men and horses, so apparent to all observers, is the best possible indication of their fitness for the larger duty occupy. They comprise a superior class of gentlemen, and among them are placed majority admirably qualified, from military and frontier life, and active business experience for this arm of service.

Adj. Gen. Hodson of England I think I am authorized to say, was ever better organized than this one; and none in this State certainly has excelled it in subordination, discipline and soldierly conduct."

AID TO THE SOLDIERS. The ladies of Littlefield have contributed the following articles for the benefit of the soldiers in the hospitals in this city: 23 pairs stockings, 32 pillows, 26 pairs pillow cases, 13 quilts, 33 sheets, 10 shirts, 7 towels, blankets, 2 dressing-gowns, 2 coverlets, 1 comforter, 1 pair mittens, lot cotton and woollen bandsages, books &c. One pair of stockings was knit by Mrs. Springer, aged 93 years. The articles not needed at the hospitals in Augusta will be forwarded to the seat of war for the use of the sick and destitute soldiers there.

DEATH OF MARSHALL S. HAGAR. We received on Monday the sad intelligence of the death of Hon. Marshall S. Hagar, of Richmond. We learn that he was killed at Portland, on the track of the P. & K. Railroad, as he was leaving the cars, the train being in motion. Mr. Hagar was on his way to New York. We have no particulars of the accident.

U. S. TREASURY NOTES. The half yearly interest on the first fifty million loan at 7-3-10 percent, due Feb. 19, will be paid by the U. S. Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers. Holders of coupons in New England will obtain their interest of Assistant Treasurer, in Boston, Ezra Lincoln, Jr., at his office at the Custom House.

John A. Poor, Esq., of Portland, proposes to pay the expenses of the war by a tax on liquors. If the use of liquors could be dispensed with entirely, the cost of two or three wars might be saved.

School Superintendent's Report.

We have received from Hon. E. P. Weston, Superintendent of Common Schools in Maine, a copy of his annual Report for 1861. This is a work of great interest and value, and attests the ability and thoroughness with which the Superintendent has performed the duties of his department. No former Report has embodied so much of reference to the practical working of our common school system, and it is to be hoped that some of our legislators who have taken it into their wise consideration to abolish the office of Superintendent and to vest all appropriations for schools, as a measure of economy, may by its perusal become enlightened upon the importance of sustaining with their hand this indispensable instrument of educational progress and reform. The people of the State have never expressed nor entertained any desire for such narrow and illiberal action by their elected servants. While they are cheerfully willing to bear any additional burdens of taxation necessary for the support of the government, the enforcement of its authority against rebellion and revolt, they will protest against the withdrawal of support from those educational institutions which contribute so largely to the true prosperity and elevation of the State. The politicians and demagogues who seek to make popular their personal capitol out of such a measure of retrenchment and economy, have mistaken their sentiment upon this subject and have popularized their wit to work in another direction. Turning to the Report we find the whole number of children between four and twenty-one years of age, on the 1st day of April last, was 103,061, an increase in one year of 5685; the number of female teachers engaged at that date in school houses in the State 11,250,000. School expenses raised by taxation, \$478,071. Bank taxes contributed to schools, \$76,128. The number of school houses in the State, 4,010—of which 1,000 were built last year. Great remission of taxes on the advance upon the schools is noted. Of the 240,000 scholars in the whole State, only 138,294 attend the summer schools (57 per cent.). attend the summer schools in 1861, 148,571, the winter schools. This shows a considerable neglect on the part either of the children or the parents and guardians—probably both—which requires amendment. The statement of the average number of scholars in each school is only 24, of the 138,294 the average was but 105,381; and of the 148,571 the average was but 116,557—falling far below the per cent. even of the whole number.

The different estimate of the importance of convenient and substantial school houses is well illustrated by the diversity of expenditure for their erection by the several towns during the past year. For instance a new school house in Durham, cost \$10,000; in Lewiston, \$6000; in Gray, \$219; in Westbrook, \$3000; in Mt. Desert, \$350; in Rockport, \$2500; in Bowdoinham, \$150; in Bath, \$97,710—and so on. The Superintendent urges improvement in school-teachers as well as in the school houses. He alludes to the propriety of teaching his advice is, "Select your teachers with care and pay them according to their worth. A general increase of wages in which the competent and incompetent should share alike, would not accomplish the object sought. In the present state of discrimination by those who employ them, while some teachers receive less than they justly earn, others get more than they can justify from their services. The people are justified in a wholesome lesson from bitter experience. We have not space to enumerate the various topics discussed, and recommendations urged in this admirable Report, much less to offer comments upon them. They all have a bearing upon the common school system, and are the practical suggestions of observation and experience, which will entitle them to favorable consideration and respect not only of the Legislature, but of the people in whose schools they are made.

DR. LIGHTHILL IN AUGUSTA. The former visitor of this successful practitioner in diseases of the head and ear and catarrhal affections were produced of much good to the patients who placed themselves under his care. He will return to his city Feb. 17th, and can be consulted at the office in Monahan Hall building. The following are testimonials from responsible parties testifying to the skill of Dr. L.:

(From the Bangor Times.)

CATARRH. This is to certify, that I was afflicted with catarrh of the nose and throat, and a constant discharge of mucus from my head in my throat. Haduced pieces of mucus would come from my throat and nostrils, after a severe cold. I was unable to do any thing but rest, and my strength. I had a severe pain on top of my head above my nose; my food would not digest. In fact, I was completely run down. I was cured by Dr. H. K. H. of Bangor, Maine. During, while Dr. Lighthill was in place, I was a perusion of my friends, I placed myself under his care; and after two months' treatment, was entirely cured, and have remained well up to the present time. W. E. JAMES.

Portland, September 28, 1861.

To whom it may concern. I feel in duty bound to say to the public, who are afflicted with diseases of the head and ear, that my hearing has been partially obscured more than twenty years, and during the last year it has been almost entirely lost. For some months past I have not heard the least in one ear, and but little in the other; but noticing the advertisement of Dr. Lighthill I felt in hopes of getting relief. Yet knowing there to be so much imposture upon the public by traveling physicians, I delayed seeing Dr. Lighthill until the 20th inst., then called on him at the Bangor House, and after less than an hour I could hear from the deaf ear, and could hear moderately low. I think my hearing still improves. My age is 82 years. One wish is to get to avail himself of the above facts in place of Dr. Lighthill's Mills, in Portland, where they will find me.

PEARSON HAZELTON.

Garland Jan. 30, 1862.

Dr. Lighthill—Dear Sir: This is to certify that you have effectually cured me of partial deafness by a very short course of treatment.

Yours, &c.

SUSAN A. GOWELL, Orrington.

Baugor Jan. 31 1862.

EXPULSION OF SENATOR BRIGIT. On Tuesday last Jesse D. Bright of Indiana was expelled from his seat in the U. S. Senate as a tried and convicted traitor, by vote of 32 to 14. A most righteous judgment. The only wonder is that his traitorous presence should have been so long tolerated in the Senate. An avowed sympathizer with the South—holding treasonable correspondence with Jeff Davis—and recommending his aid in improved weapon for the use of the rebellion—the evidence of which was in possession of the government—he should have been not only expelled from company with other traitors within the walls of the Senate. As it is, we presume he was permitted to return home and continue his treasonable machinations without let or hindrance.

WESTBROOK SEMINARY. A wealthy merchant of Boston has offered a liberal donation in money to the Westbrook Seminary to put the school on a successful and permanent operation, provided the trustees of the institution in this State will give an equal sum. We understand that measures are being taken to meet this condition and that the school will be reopened about the first of March under the most favorable auspices.

OUR PUBLISHERS. We have recently received from Mr. Russell, the publisher, some finely executed lithographs of the portraits of Col. David Sherpley and Goddard. The likenesses are excellent. They are for sale by W. Pierce, F. A. Kinsman and M. & C. R. Vail in this city.

THE MAINE FOURTEENTH. In accordance with orders received from Gen. Butler, the 14th regiment, Col. Nickerson, for several months past stationed in this city, took their departure for the seat of war on Wednesday last. The men were paid off on Tuesday, and the money for the purpose having been promptly furnished by the Bureau of War, on the requisition of the State Treasurer. At an early hour on Wednesday morning, the regiment was astir, and with rations provided, the knapsacks packed and slung, and camp equipment stored in the baggage cars, the men were paraded for their departure. The morning was severely cold, but the excitement of preparation, and the anticipation of speedily engaging in active service, made the soldiers apparently insensible to its severity. At eight o'clock the regiment was marched to the cars, escorted by Col. McClusky's regiment, the 15th, which turned out for the purpose with full ranks. The cars, twenty-one in number, were speedily filled, and amid the cheers of their comrades of the 15th, and a large concourse of people assembled, the train rapidly moved away.

At half-past seven o'clock in the evening, as we learned from the Boston Journal, the regiment reached that city without accident, and after partaking of a collation provided for them in the car house, they were comfortably quartered for the night in Faneuil Hall.

The next morning at about 11 o'clock, the regiment fell into column and marched to the Commercial wharf, where they embarked on board the ship North American, bound for the Gulf. The men were in good health and spirits, and have that stalwart and steady appearance that we have become accustomed to look for in the troops of the Pine Tree State.

The following is a list of the field, staff and company officers of the regiment:

Colonel—Frank S. Nickerson of Searsport.
Lieutenant Colonel—Elias Milliken of Burnham.
Major—Thos. W. Porter of Bangor.
Adjutant—C. S. Bickmore of Searsport.
Quartermaster—John H. Crowell of Winterport.
Surgeon—Enoch Adams of Fairfield.
Sergeon's Mate—Wm. Westcott of Biddeford.
Company Chairman—G. W. B. Adams of Augusta.
Quartermaster Sergeant—Barker B. Giddens of Belfast.

First Lieutenants—Chas. Barnard of Bucksport, Richard W. Mullen of Vassalboro', Geo. C. Scott of Wiscasset, Nath'l Sawyer of Newburg, O. W. Trask of Atkinson, Horace Blackman of Milford, Chas. H. Clancy of Portland, Lewis Chase of Fayette, Jas. B. Hill of Patten and Edward S. Morris of Newfield.

Second Lieutenants—Frank Harriman of Bucksport, J. H. Spenser of Vassalboro', A. F. H. Hill of Wiscasset, J. O. W. Paine of Bangor, Jos. H. Campbell of Augusta, K. Brian of New Sharon, J. W. Wiswell of Searsport, Geo. Webster of Portland, Chas. Smith of Oldtown and Benj. F. Stevens of North Berwick.

At the time of the embarkation of the regiment, some six hundred men arrived on the same wharf, from Camp Chase, Lowell, having broken camp this morning, and arrived in town by a special train. These men, who form a part of the New England Division, it was understood would be embarked on the ship Idaho, which lies in the stream. This body of troops consisted of the First Maine Battery, Capt. Thompson; Fourth New England Battery, Capt. Everett; Second Vermont Battery, Capt. Snyles; and Company K, Capt. Cook, of Col. French's regiment, now on the steamship Constitution. The vessels above named sailed from Boston on Saturday.

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First MAINE, CAVALRY, AUGUSTA, ME., 1862.

THE MAINE FARMER. I regard as the true friend of the soldier—the soldier of the “rank and file”—such as the friend of him who wears shoulder straps, ornamented with bar, leaf, or eagle. I am sure some men to think so. And the Farmer would be true to the real welfare of the soldier who has fled from the numberless companies of a Maine home to rescue the bleeding and bleeding of Liberty from the clutch of a gang of despotic traitors and desperate pirates. For some of these men have left farms behind, and are sons of farmers who are the patrons and readers of the Farmer. No class of men are more independent of the contaminating influences of wealth and the seductions of a perverted public opinion than are those who strive to obey the true injunction: “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the land.” It is a self-evident proposition, and I do not admit of successful contradiction, that the genius and spirit of our free institutions are the basis and the most imminent degree, to the safety and keeping of those who till the ground. And the Farmer is the man who is accustomed to the invigorating breezes and the sun, and the bracing air of our northern hills and mountains, and habituated to vigorous personal labor. He is a man who is so conscious of his personal rights and liberties, and so conscious of the duty of true patriotism, that he will not do the fire of true patriotism burn in a brighter flame, and a more brilliant light than in the breast of the farmer.

The events of the past year have stereotyped the fact in indelible characters. Some newspapers are the organs of a corporation; some of a company of men who are interested to accomplish a special object through its columns; some of a political party, whose aims are very large and remote; some reflect the prejudices of a landlord, and a large number are very sensitive of the malaria with which wealth impregnates the atmosphere. But a newspaper which has a large and general circulation, and whose patrons, generally, have nothing to lose by letting the whole truth, when the public good absolutely requires it, is the one of all others to which a private soldier and the poor man looks for aid when in the power of a man or a corporation is held accountable and responsible very rarely to one in particular. I trust I have not mistaken the aim and influence of *Maine Farmer*.

The sons of Maine, (upwards of sixteen thousand,) at the call of their country, have abandoned their homes and the callings of civil life to enter the military art and to defend and preserve the existence of their country. Here as the faithful of them have been about as the faithful of the 14th Regiment, called away last Wednesday. Some of these men (about 700) and commissions from Governor Washburn, and their duties are comparatively light. But the rest of them have no alternative but to take the care of their clothing, and fare, generally offered them by the servants of the Government.

The soldiers of the “regular army” and our volunteer troops are vastly different in their character. The former have heretofore been composed of a class of citizens who could best serve their country while under the restraints of the army and its officers. While the latter is composed of a very large proportion of our most intelligent citizens, well known for their integrity and uprightness. It is evident to every one that the latter class furnish better material for good and successful soldiers than the former class do. It is no longer thought to be true that, to be a good soldier a man must have a bad character. It is only because the present Federal army has the grit and brains of the nation to back it that we have reason to believe that the American soldier will be a better man than the European one. Does Uncle Sam need more experienced leaders and leaders to teach him the priceless value of indispensable importance of appointing worthy commanding officers to lead these brave and patriotic troops on to battle and to victory? The Government pays enough to have the very best material from which to make the best of officers. It sends pay dearly enough to have these patriotic officers clothed, fed, treated, and cared for in the best manner. Both these ends are as yet attained in a very imperfect manner. Why better results are not attained in these respects, it is not my present purpose to investigate. I shall give my opinion thereon at some future time.

The man who aspires to the ambition of a Commissioner—let it be that of a 28th Lieutenant or of a Colonel—should have capacity and tact sufficient to learn and practice, in a reasonable time, Harney's Infantry Tactics or Cooke's Cavalry Tactics. But these mastered are but a very few pieces of a very long and hard chapter. No man who is a good leading officer who cannot do it and does not habitually control his own feelings and passions, who has not intellect enough to guide correctly and control and lead efficiently his men under his command.

Not unfrequently it is necessary for a military commander to decide, and decide rightly, in a moment, what action shall or shall not be taken in his command. This decision may have an important bearing upon, may affect very materially the fate and reputation, not only of his men, but of the whole nation, to no small extent. How can a man who is accustomed to fly into violent bursts of passion, or who is habitually carried into uncontrollable excitement at the occurrence of a trifling event—how can such a man be called a fit person to have the control of our brave, brave, intelligent and patriotic volunteers? They should not respect and confide in his ability and character. A military commander to be successful, now, must have some feeling and sympathy for his men, must consider them intelligent beings, and not senseless brutes. No greater compliment could be paid to Dr. Buxton, who is recently been laboring at the Hospital at Augusta, than to say that he was patient with the patients. He is informed that he was patient with the patients with the patients all the time, it is reasonable to suppose that his time and energies were given for the men whom he was paid to care for.

It is imperative and unquestionable duty of a commanding officer to spare no labor and no exertion to see that his men receive the full ration, amount of clothing, and the humane treatment which the Government so abundantly pays for. How can he do this, unless he eat, sleep, and live with the men, and endeavor to act for their true welfare and highest interest? If a commissioned officer boards at the Augusta House, the Stanley House, the “Astor House,” or at the “Sutlers,” and takes no particular pains to look after the food which his men are obliged to eat, nine cases out of ten, they will have poor health; more “admirable hand bread, and a colored liquid called coffee for the sake of euphony. An experience of four months in camp at Augusta, leads me to these reflections:—“Buss and buttons and shoulder straps may indicate rank in military life, but they afford no indication of handiwork, brains or character.

I, like all the soldiers of the 1st Maine Cavalry, have been interested in the remarks in the Farmer about Col. Goddard, of this regiment. In the first place, the fling of the correspondent, “A Fire in Front,” that the author of these charges against Col. Goddard was the subject of a deserved punishment, or some “disappointed aspirant,” comes with very bad grace from one who is so much personal interest in denying these accusations. When one leaves the subject matter in issue, and stops to indulge of that kind, he virtually confesses the weakness of his side, and the truth of the charges made against Col. Goddard.

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